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Message Text

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12
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 SAM-01 /076 W
---------- 101749
P R 140658Z NOV 74
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORIYY 1475
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 4869

DEPT PASS BAGHDAD PRIORITY

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR KU IZ
SUBJ: IRAQ PROVOCATION IRRITATES KUWAIT

1. BRITISH EMBOFF TOLD US THAT WITHIN PAST TWO WEEKS IRAQI MILITARY HAVE MADE WHAT KUWAITIS CONSIDER TO BE SOMEWHAT PROVOCATIVE AND IRRITATING ACT. ACCORDING OUR SOURCE ABOUT NOV 4 IRAQIS REQUESTED PERMISSION HOLD MILITARY MANEUVERS ON KUWAITI SIDE OF BORDER WITHIN ENCLAVE IRAQ HELD FOLLOWING MARCH 1973 BORDER INCIDENT. GOK REFUSED REQUEST WHEREUPON IRAQI MILITARY PERSONNEL PLACED SOME FORM OF MARKER, PERHAPS A FLAG, ON WHAT KUWAITIS CONSIDER TO BE KUWAITI TERRITORY. BRITISH EMBOFF DESCRIBED GOK AS FURIOUS OVER IRAQI PROBE.
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2. COMMENT: INCIDENT NOT YET PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE HERE. ASSUME
KUWAITIS WILL TRY TO KEEP IT OUT OF PAPERS. TIMING OF INCIDENT
IS CURIOUS SINCE WEEK OR SO EARLIER (OCT 26) IRAQI TRANSPORT
MINISTER WAS HERE SUCCESSFULLY NEGOTIATING AGREEMENT WITH GOK
WHEREBY IRAQIS ALLOWED IMPORT CERTAIN GOODS VIA SHUWAIKH PORT
AND KUWAIT. FYI UNDERSTAND PORT OF BASRA EXTREMELY CROWDED
WITH SERIOUS BACKLOG AND DELAYS LIKELY TO EXIST FOR WELL
INTO FUTURE. END FYI CLEARLY IT IMPORTANT TO GOI TO KEEP
FLOW OF GOODS MOVING INTO IRAQ AND AGREEMENT WITH KUWAIT REGARDING
TRANSIT AND USE OF KUWAITI PORT, WE WOULD HAVE THOUGHT, WAS
OF CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE TO IRAQIS. NOT CLEAR TO US, THEREFORE,
WHY INCIDENT DESCRIBED PARA 1 OCCURRED WHEN IT DID. WE WOULD
BE INTERESTED IN BAGHDAD'S COMMENT.
STOLTZFUS

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED BAGHDAD.

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NNN

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 14 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Review Event:
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